DEMOCRATIC

GERMAN REPORT

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W. BERLIN POLICE — GESTAPO HAVEN

By the Editor

Key posts in the West Berlin police force are held today by former Gestapo officials, SS officers, war criminals and other men who served Hitler.

Below we give details of the blood-stained careers of some of these men.

The presence of old active nazis of this type in the West Berlin police force is, for two reasons, of far greater importance than the fact that other old nazis run the police in most West German cities:

FIRSTLY, these unreconstructed nazis are serving in key posts in one of the main danger spots of the world. Provocative acts on their part could bring the world to the brink of war.

SECONDLY, Britain, the United States and France are directly responsible for the fact that such men hold these posts. West Berlin is the only part of Germany still run under occupation law. The British, American and French Government have not only the right, but the duty, to see that to it that men of this type are removed from sensitive posts, where they could be a danger to the peace of the world.

Indignation is not enough: international action can force these men out of office. Protests from individuals and organisations should be sent to your M.P.s and Senators; since the West Berlin administration is very conscious of world opinion, protests should also be sent to Mayor Willy Brandt, Schoeneberger Rathaus, West Berlin.

These Men Must Go!

Stalwart Defenders of Western Democracy?

Back in February 1944, during the Second World War, a young Danish policeman named John Christian Falkenaa was shot dead in a deserted night-time street in nazi-occupied Copenhagen. His murderers were two Danish collaborators and a German SS officer, Wilhelm Graurock, adjutant to the SS Fuehrer in Denmark.

After the war the collaborators were tracked down, tried and executed by the Danish authorities. Graurock was placed on the Allied War Crimes List, but he had disappeared.

He suddenly came into the news on February 27th this year, when Danish newspapers discovered that Wilhelm Graurock, nazi murderer, was an inspector in the West Berlin police department. He had not even bothered to change his name.

The West Berlin authorities were slightly upset by the revelation, but not shocked, for Graurock was only one of a large number of nazi criminals now employed in the West Berlin police department. West Berlin spokesman claimed at first that Inspector Graurock, late of the SS, had never been in Copenhagen. Obliged to abandon this excuse, an official spokesman declared: "The Danish authorities do not appear to have informed us in good time about this matter. We understood that all investigations into war crimes had now been completed."

On March 11th, under the pressure of Danish protests, the West German authorities reluctantly arrested Wilhelm Graurock.

(The West Berlin authorities, and the Danish authorities, had no excuse for knowing nothing about Graurock's past or his present employment. Three years ago, on January 2nd 1959, GERMAN REPORT noted the fact that Graurock had served as an SS officer with the nazi occupation police in Denmark, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, and was today an officer in the West Berlin Police Department.)

The case of Wilhelm Graurock is not an isolated scandal. Here are short biographies of some of the other guilty men — Gestapo officials, SS men and convicted war criminals who today hold key posts in the West Berlin police.

The details given below cannot be brushed aside as "allegations from dubious eastern sources". Full official records on all these men are held in the US Document Centre, West Berlin.

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Kurt Gehrmann, 63, police commissar in West Berlin, was captain of a special motorised police unit attached to Goering's Headquarters. His superiors reported that "his behaviour and activities prove that he is unquestionably a National Socialist". He was promoted Major in June 1943 and appointed commander of the 1st SS Police Regiment 4. During the 13 months he commanded this unit, it murdered thousands of Polish Jews, destroyed many Polish villages and shot the inhabitants. Gehrmann was arrested by the Soviet authorities in 1945 in Berlin and sentenced to 25 years imprison-

ment for war crimes. He was returned under arrest to the West Berlin authorities in October 1953. Immediately released, he was granted 6000 marks (£500) indemnity and appointed police commissar. He now lives at 43 Bismarck Strasse, in Steglitz, West Berlin, telephone number 72 81 38.

Police Commissar Hans-Joachim Kohlmorgen, deputy chief of the police Personnel Department, was a company commander in the SS "Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler" Division and served in occupied Czechoslovakia, Poland and the Soviet Union. Kohlmorgen joined the Nazi Party in January 1931 (No. 425,302), the Storm Troops in 1934 and the SS in May 1934 (No. 293,748). *(See box below.)*

Erich Duensing, newly-elected Police President of West Berlin, was a major in the nazi Wehrmacht. He has stated, "I commanded a regiment and learned how to give orders." Several years ago, Duensing demonstratively led 220 police officers in walking out of a cinema showing of an anti-nazi film.

Inspector Kurt Krummholz, chief of the mobile police squad in West Berlin's Steglitz district, became a Storm Trooper in 1934 and reached the rank of SS Major in police service in Budapest in 1944, the period when Adolf Eichmann was deporting tens of thousands of Jews from Hungary.

Gerhard Gross, chief of the northern section of the West Berlin traffic police, joined the Nazi Party in 1933 (No. 1,567,153) after having become a sergeant in the Storm Troops a year earlier. In 1942 he switched from the police to the SS and by 1944 he had become a Major.

Johannes Uhden, police commissar and deputy chief of the mobile police squad in Tempelhof, West Berlin, was in the SS "Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler" unit in 1936, worked under direct command of SS boss Heinrich Himmler, and worked his way up to the rank of Captain in the SS. He was awarded the SS "Dagger of Honour" for his activities.

Walter Boosfeld, in the mobile police squad of Steglitz, West Berlin, was an officer in the SS "Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler" and worked for a time as guard in Dachau Concentration Camp.

Friedrich Gediehn, 63, Chief of Police in Zehlendorf, West Berlin, was a Major in the nazi police. His appointment to this rank in December 1941 states: "His political reliability is unquestioned... Gediehn is a convinced National Socialist who is ready at all times to struggle with all his strength for the Fuehrer and the National Socialist state."

Georg Kirsch, 51, commander of the mobile police squad in Wilmersdorf, West Berlin, joined both the Nazi Party and the SS on April 1st 1933. He commanded a police platoon in the seizure of Czechoslovakia and later became a Captain in the SS Volunteer "Prinz Eugen" Division.

Friedrich Fischer, 57, detective secretary, worked with the Gestapo chief of Weimar during the war and was involved in the shooting of anti-nazis.

Ernst Goetsche, 46, police commissar, responsible for special details in Charlottenburg, West Berlin, was a Lieutenant in an SS police division on the eastern front during the war. He has called his years as SS officer his "best apprenticeship".

Police Councillor Werner, new head of West Berlin's uniformed police, joined the nazi police force in 1936 and served Hitler faithfully throughout the war.

Franz Birr, who is responsible for training West Berlin's new policemen, was a lieutenant in the nazi's SS troops.

Walter Rosenbaum, his deputy, was formerly an SS captain and an officer in the Feldgendarmerie.

Working in the detective section are:

Johannes Altmann, detective secretary, was in the Reich Main Security

(cont. at foot of next page)

The Life & Crimes of a Police Officer

Deputy Chief of Personnel in the West Berlin police is Hans-Joachim Kohlmorgen, 57. Here is his pre-1945 career, in the words of his superiors.

On April 3rd 1936 the Police President of Frankfurt (Main) reported:

"Kohlmorgen has been a member of the National Socialist Party since January 1st 1931. The police department of Schwerin affirms that he was an eager and faithful fighter for the Third Reich, that he industriously spread the ideas of the National Socialist Party amongst his comrades even in the days when all kinds of disadvantages could result from these activities."

On October 28th 1937, the Commander of the Feldgendarmerie (Military Police) School in Suhl wrote:

"Long before the attainment of power, Kohlmorgen struggled for the goals of the National Socialist Party, joined the Party long before it came to power and played a major part in training the SS unit 22 in Schwerin.

"In order to work most fully in the spirit of our movement, he voluntarily left the rural police so as to serve as company leader in the SS Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler (the nazi elite bodyguard unit, ed.)"

On December 2nd 1940, the Senior Gendarmerie Lieutenant in Teltow District wrote:

"Kohlmorgen is completely equipped with the ideological principles of National Socialism and his political behaviour is a full guarantee that he is ready at all times to fight unreservedly for the National Socialist state."

On February 17th 1942, the Commander of the Gendarmerie in nazi-occupied Zhitomir, Soviet Union, reported:

"District Senior Gendarmerie Lieutenant Kohlmorgen has been on the eastern front since June 30th. In his job as leader of the Gendarmerie Company of Mosyr, Kohlmorgen has proved himself worthy in every way... His untiring labour and his logical tactical decisions have resulted in important successes and have inspired the men under him to the greatest achievements. His work was especially valuable in uncovering a band of conspirators in the Mosyr district... The immediate, careful and patient investigations led in time to the arrest of at least 70 people in Mosyr and surroundings. A carefully prepared operation in Kalinkovichi showed evidence of bandit groups. It was possible to capture 17 people and shoot 9 who attempted to escape... In a major operation in the Mosyr area 90 members of bands were captured and 61 people were immediately shot for security reasons.

"All these successes are in great measure due alone to the untiring efforts of Lieutenant Kohlmorgen. For these reasons I believe that Kohlmorgen has especially merited the award of the War Merit Cross."

Kohlmorgen was awarded the War Merit Cross 2nd Class with Swords. He served as Gendarmerie Captain in Mosyr from June 24th 1942 to March 9th 1943. Then he became Company Commander of a motorised Gendarmerie company in Lubeln.

Fair Boycott Flops Flat

More Firms Come to Leipzig

West German Government plans for an economic boycott of the Leipzig Trade Fair in the GDR were seen to have flopped miserably on Sunday March 4th, when the Fair opened.

Many large West German firms, acting under government pressure, had failed to exhibit, but the space left vacant was more than filled by greatly increased exhibits from Britain, France, Sweden, Japan and other countries.

The West German boycott bid, aimed at crippling the GDR economically, received support from the NATO Council in Paris on December 15th 1961. The NATO Council recommended that business firms in NATO countries should refrain from taking part in the Leipzig Fair.

No NATO country, with the exception of West Germany, paid the slightest attention to the recommendation, and most NATO countries increased their exhibits. Many West German firms too ignored government pressure and exhibited at Leipzig.

Many West German and West Berlin newspapers were extremely rude because British and other western firms had dared to take part in the Leipzig Fair. Typical was the West Berlin "Tagesspiegel", which stated: "Many firms have appeared in Leipzig this year for the first time because they have scented a vile chance to take advantage of those who acted in accordance with the boycott call... It is no secret that these firms are mainly British ones. ... They must be extremely muddle-headed to make pacts with their mortal enemies and against their own allies."

Here are some press comments on the 1962 Leipzig Spring Fair:

"The exhibition space not taken up this year by West German exhibitors has been occupied by firms from other parts of the free world. According to preliminary reports these firms have more than made up for West German abstention."

"Deutsche Zeitung" Cologne, West Germany, March 4th

The flags of the NATO states are flying in the streets of Leipzig. Once again, it appears paradoxical to see these flags in a state 'which does not exist'. Many more British firms are exhibiting than last year, and Sweden has doubled its participation. When looked at from (West) Berlin, East Germany may look like a marionette state: but looked at from Leipzig the GDR is an impressive reality."

"Figaro", Paris, March 5th

"Apart from the absense of some of the larger West German firms from the fair, the East German authorities have some reason to be satisfied. It was, they claimed, the largest fair in the 800 years of this event, with a record number of some 59 countries exhibiting everything from sewing thread to oil derricks. The floor space taken up by western firms was greater than that occupied by Soviet block concerns.

"The German Federal Republic is represented in every one of the 55 trade sections of the fair, with 628 firms ... There is also strong reason to think that if concerns like Krupp, Mannesmann, Bayer, Hoechst and Gute Hoffnungshuette have bowed to strong urging of the Federal Government and given up their floor space to other western countries, their representatives are here doing business all the same, or some of the smaller firms present are acting on their behalf ...

"Western businessmen emphasised that they can make a far wider variety of contacts, not only with communist countries, but with uncommitted ones, at Leipzig than at the Hanover Fair."

"The Times", London, March 5th

(cont. from previous page)

Office until 1945 (Eichmann's organisation).

Otto Daubitz, (detective secretary), was in the Berlin Gestapo until 1945.

Erich Emmersleben, assistant detective chief, was in the Gestapo in Berlin till the war ended.

Johannes Guenther, detective secretary, worked in Gestapo leadership jobs in Halle and Berlin, and was officially attested "an industrious official with unquestionable National Socialist principles" by the nazis.

Wilhelm Hayn, head detective secretary, was in the Reich Main Security Office.

August Herden, detective secretary, worked in the Reich Main Security Office till 1945.

Walter Holzhaeuser, head detective secretary, was in the Gestapo section of the Reich Main Security Office, a member of the Nazi Party since 1931 and a storm troop leader.

Big Soviet Credit For Democratic Germany

The Soviet Union granted the GDR a large credit and considerably increased trade between the two countries under the terms of an economic agreement signed at Leipzig on March 5th. The Soviet credit, amounting to 310 million dollars, will mainly be used to modernise and streamline GDR industry.

The economic agreement, which was signed for the Soviet Union by Anastas Mikoyan, Deputy Prime Minister, provided for a 12% increase in trade between the GDR and the Soviet Union in 1962. Total trade exchanges between the two countries will amount to about 800 million pounds sterling.

"Hurra for Franco"

The western world needs Franco's support against Communism, Dr Richard Jaeger, Vice-Chairman of the West German Parliament, stated in an interview with the West German trade union newspaper "Welt der Arbeit" on March 9th.

"Those Social Democrats who fought against Franco should today admit that they chose the wrong side", Jaeger said.

During the Hitler era, Dr Jaeger, who is a prominent member of Adenauer's Christian Democratic Party, worked as a judge in nazi courts.

Polish Partisan Medals for Germans

The Polish Government has awarded the Polish Partisan Cross to five German anti-fascists who fought in the ranks of Polish guerrilla units against the nazis in the Second World War. Two of the men so distinguished today occupy responsible posts in the GDR Ministry of the Interior; one is retired; and the other two awards were made posthumously.

LOOKING BACKWARDS

1922

On April 16th Germany and the Soviet Union sign the Rapallo Treaty, providing for economic cooperation and peaceful co-existence between the two states.

1932

April 10th: Right-wing Field Marshal Hindenburg is elected president with the support of Social Democrats, who support him as "the lesser evil". Voting is Hindenburg 53%; Hitler 36%; Thaelmann (Communist) 10%.

"The Social Democrats have proposed that the nazis should be 'allowed to take over' so that they could 'expose their inefficiency'. Only if the working class organises mass resistance ... will we be able to smash all parts of the fascist front."
Walter Ulbricht in "Die Rote Fahne", Berlin, March 31st 1932

1942

"I will ruthlessly eliminate everyone who does not stand up to his task. From now on judges who do not recognise the demands of the hour will be removed from office."
Adolf Hitler addressing the Reichstag, April 26th 1942

(GERMAN REPORT comments: Nearly all German judges obeyed Hitler's orders. Well over one thousand of them are back on the bench again in West Germany today.)

1952

"The United States does not want free elections in West Germany now because that would upset the apple cart. The apples are the Schuman Plan and the European Army, including 12 German divisions."
"New York Herald Tribune" March 24th 1952

The final aim of the European policy of my Government is the unity of Europe up to the Urals" stated Walter Hallstein, West German Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs at a press conference in Washington.
"German Report", March 28th 1952

GDR Rejects US Plan for "Berlin Corridor"

GDR government spokesmen have strongly criticised an American plan to establish a sort of "corridor" through the one hundred miles of GDR territory which separate West Berlin from West Germany.

The US plan, details of which were disclosed in Washington on March 4th, called for the establishment of an "International Access Authority" which would have full control of road and air communications between West Germany and the city-state of West Berlin. The Access Authority would apparently be composed of representatives of Britain, France, USA and the Soviet Union, according to the Washington announcement.

Commenting on the plan on March 6th, GDR State Secretary Otto Winzer said that the establishment of such an extraterritorial corridor would be equivalent to a return to the period of colonialism. The German Democratic Republic was naturally ready to consider all methods of ensuring unhindered access to West Berlin when this territory ceased to be a forward bastion of the NATO, but there could be no question of the GDR ceding its territory or sovereign rights.

Political observers in Berlin pointed out that the outstanding weakness of the US corridor plan was that it completely ignored the existence of the GDR, although all access to West Berlin has to pass through or over the territory of this sovereign state.

Banker was 'Himmler's Friend'

West Germany's key banker was a leading member of the "Circle of Friends of SS Reichs-Fuehrer Himmler", the West German Social Democratic newspaper "Vorwaerts" disclosed on March 7th. The banker is Karl Blessing, President of the Bundesbank, equivalent to the Bank of England or the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank.

The organisation, known as the "Himmler Circle", was formed by the nazis in 1932 to obtain funds and other support from big business. The money collected, running into hundreds of millions of marks, was all channeled to the SS, ruled a war criminal organisation at the Nuremberg Trials.

"Vorwaerts" named other top business leaders in West Germany as members of the "Himmler Circle", including Konrad Kaletsch, manager in the giant Flick trust; Dr Heinrich Buetefisch, IG Farben chief imprisoned for employing slave labour at Auschwitz, who is now a director of the big Ruhr-Chemie concern, and other industrialists.

"It is only natural", the newspaper commented, "that members of the Circle no longer enjoy being reminded of their membership."

Stories on education, technology, the background on Berlin, and other aspects of life and developments in the GDR are contained in the April issue of GDR Review, monthly illustrated magazine published in Dresden.

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A DAY IN AN ATOM LAB

By Allen Mann

The clean, light corridors were just like those in any academic building or institute and, looking in at one open door, I saw another every-day sight; two elderly cleaning-women were collecting for the laundry the white lab coats worn by everyone here. Then I looked again — they were going over every square inch of the garments with Geiger counters.

"When parts of the coats are radioactive they just cut them out, destroy them, and sew new patches on." I looked at my suit in some dismay, but Heinz Schmidt, the 27-year-old atomic physicist, assured me that I needn't worry about damages. Herr Schmidt then spent the whole day steering me gently but firmly through the physical dangers of red-marked radioactive laboratories and the mental trials of a dozen short lectures on their work by experts in fields like biochemistry, electronic measurement and radiobiology.

The handsome new building I was visiting was the "Neutron House", home of the Institute for Isotope Research. Soon after the nazis were defeated in 1945, a depressing old-fashioned insane asylum in the East Berlin suburb of Buch was converted into a clinic for studying and curing cancer. Under the auspices of the German Academy of Sciences in Berlin, this grew till it included ten different institutes dealing with different aspects of cancer research — biochemistry, biophysics, pharmacology, cell physiology, and since 1955, when the GDR began with atomic research, the Institute for Isotope Research which I was now visiting.

The man who sparked the whole project from the beginning and is now president of the combined institutes, Professor Walter Friedrich, worked with the famous Professor Roentgen in his youth and helped found the whole science of biophysics. Herr Schmidt spoke of him with great admiration, for Professor Friedrich had helped him a great deal in his studies.

The ten institutes belonging to the cancer research centre, together with apartment houses for some of the staff, lie scattered through a pleasant wooded area just inside the eastern city limits of East Berlin.

After a short briefing by Herr Schmidt on what we were to visit, we set off through the realm of formidable apparatus — mostly large metal boxes of all shapes and sizes covered with dials, meters, levers and other mysterious parts for which I can find no name. Some machines wrote with moving pens on endless strips of graph paper, others flashed numbers and lights like a pin-ball game, and a few emitted menacing clicking noises.

The first colleague Schmidt introduced me to was Dr Lindigkeit, a woman of about 30 — tall, with rather unruly hair and quick, intelligent eyes. Dr Lindigkeit, head of the institute's biochemistry department, was using isotopes to study the albumen synthesis in cells and other similar subjects. These studies have no immediate and practical application, she told me, but are closely connected with problems like heredity and even the age-old question as to the nature of the life process itself. This makes them vital also to research on the causes and spread of cancer.

While we were talking, another woman who had been manipulating the complicated apparatus in the rear of the room joined the conversation. This was Dr Coutelle, who was bringing her experience as a physician to the biochemical department headed by Dr Lindigkeit. It turned out that Dr Coutelle, who comes originally from the Ukrainian city of Lvov, had met her German husband while both were serving as doctors with the International Brigades in Spain during the Civil War. Despite the small number of survivors, International Brigade vets may be found in responsible jobs in all fields throughout the GDR.

In other laboratories, various scientists talked about the advantages or disadvantages of radioactive tritium in checking on the distribution of amino acids in living beings, about the "decorporation" of radioactive materials, and about X-raying metals and other materials with the radioactive iron isotope Fe^{55}. Herr Schmidt had always remained at my elbow, giving me short, tactful explanations and definitions when the going got especially rough.

Now he led me to a neighbouring building called the "Radium House". This was the "factory" of the Institute, which not only conducts research but also helps provide the whole of the GDR with radioactive isotopes for research and for industrial and medical purposes. The rooms in this formidable little house all bore the notice "Radioactivity — Danger" in red as well as notices like "This room must be ventilated 20 minutes before entering". To enter one of the rooms, I had to put on clumsy white rubber overshoes so as not to pick up radioactive dust on my shoes.

The workshops contained large boxes of lead and heavy glass. All work within these barriers must be done with those remote-control manipulators which one sees in film and TV — capable of doing everything fingers do and more. One of these boxes contained a regular one-man assembly line; tiny little capsules moved into the box on a conveyor system where they were filled with radioactive material (Cesium^{137}) from a tiny pipette manipulated from behind the glass by the laboratory technician, who then sealed each one, also by remote control, and prepared it for mailing to some part of the country or world, where it will be used in factory, research lab or hospital.

Finally, Herr Schmidt showed me the building where water used in the institute is separated from all radioactive residues, which are collected, put in heavy leaden containers and stored under constant control in deserted mine shafts.

Despite the many differences in the scientists and technicians I met on my tour of the Institute, I was impressed by two similarities; nearly all of them were quite young, in their twenties and thirties, and every scientist seemed to have a magnetically enthusiastic interest in his field of work.

(to be continued)

Democratic
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The Plague: OUR STORY ECHOES ROUND THE WORLD

Newspapers Call for Bonn Answer

Most regular readers will recall the issue of GERMAN REPORT dated January 19th, which presented details of the nazi-tainted past of very many of West Germany's leading diplomats.

The map on the front page of that issue, liberally strewn with swastikas, caught the attention of newspaper editors in many parts of the world, and reprints of the map, or the biographical details which accompanied it, have begun to stream into our office from far and near. "The Evening Standard" of London devoted a leading article to the scandal; "Literaturnaya Gazyeta" of Moscow reprinted the map together with some of the details; the "Jewish Observer", influential Zionist weekly in London, printed the map on its front page, together with full biographical details of the old nazi diplomats now serving Adenauer. Other reprints have been noted in "Tribune", London; "Dagbladet", Oslo; "Il Paese", Rome; "The Worker", New York, and "Hamishmar", Tel Aviv.

But the damning details have been ignored in one country — in West Germany. The reason is simple: the Bonn Government is completely unable to deny that its diplomatic service is run by old nazi diplomats.

Here are two English comments on GERMAN REPORT's disclosures:

Jewish Observer

"The startling map on our cover, and the formidable list of former members of the Nazi Party, or former servants of the Hitler regime, who hold diplomatic appointments, comes from the East German authorities. It has been prepared in order to embarrass the Adenauer administration. But that is no answer to the serious concern which this accusation is bound to arouse.

"We are in no position to check the details, which are fully listed. Nor is any other private organisation or newspaper. The only authority that could do this is either the western governments or the administration in Bonn. And these have consistently withheld from the public the relevant evidence which would make possible an accurate check of these records.

"However, the files which remain locked in the American archives in

DEMOCRATIC
GERMAN REPORT
THE PLAGUE

Berlin (a none too secure location for them as things are) are also, so it seems, available in duplicate to the Soviet authorities, and through them to the East German propagandists. And what effective propaganda they make. But it is no good blaming the Russians or the East Germans for that. The fault, it is clear, lies, in the first instance, in Bonn where these appointments are made; and, in the second instance, in the countries where the diplomatic agrément is given to the former Nazi nominees, and, in the third place, with the Allied authorities who refuse bona fide access to these Nazi archives which they control.

"When one considers this German diplomatic representation in its totality, one must admit that it is not its publication that is embarrassing, but its existence. It is not just a question of embarrassing the Federal Government in Bonn; they are known for their thick skins. But it also embarrasses the many Germans who have grown up since the war and who are genuinely and utterly opposed to every aspect of Nazi doctrine and to those who wore its emblem.

"It also embarrasses those who want to restore the normal relationship with the new Germany and who want to believe that the Federal Republic has firmly turned its back on the Hitler epoch. But how can one adopt such attitudes if this is a correct description of the German diplomatic service — the representatives of the new Germany, the projectors of the new image?"

(February 2nd 1962)

Evening Standard

"Grave and alarming charges about the former Nazi affiliations of 38 West German envoys have been published.

"The complete truth of these charges cannot be finally established until the Bonn government chooses to make an answer to them.

"Such an answer does not seem likely. A strict security clamp has descended on biographical information about leading West Germans who acquiesced or participated in the abuses of the Hitler regime.

"The bare facts, of course, do not always tell the whole truth. In one case, an Ambassador who is named as a former Nazi has in fact been exonerated by a special Bundestag committee.

"But the information supports the general picture of an administration which has failed to cleanse itself from the influence of men whose record under the Nazis makes them quite unsuitable for the posts they hold.

"Unless Dr Adenauer can produce convincing evidence to the contrary, it must be assumed that he has failed to remove such men from his government and diplomatic service.

"Considerable pressure has been exerted upon him to do so.

"Britain may take it as a timely warning to move with the utmost wariness in negotiations with the Bonn government.

"To tolerate the presence of former Nazis in the foreign embassies is one thing. But to join Germany in the sort of political union envisaged if Britain entered the Common Market would mean that this country identified itself with a suspect administration.

"A single Ambassador does not shape a country's foreign policy. But the influence of such a substantial group in the West German diplomatic service must be considerable.

"It is unthinkable for Britain to merge even a part of its sovereignty with a government tainted by such men."

(February 19th 1962)

Warning — Satirist at Work

JOURNEY TO THE EAST

By Herb Caen

Most readers will have seen in western newspapers blood-curdling accounts of journalistic visits to East Berlin. Mr Caen, a columnist on the San Francisco Chronicle, reported in his paper on February 8th on a similar visit he paid to the neighbouring city of Oakland, which most San Franciscans regard as drab and dull. The "Hump" mentioned in his article is a frequent bottleneck in the middle of the San Francisco — Oakland Bay Bridge. Now read on:

Putting on a dirty trenchcoat and arming myself with false identity papers, I crossed The Hump to the Eastern sector night before last. It was cold and rainy, but the chill I felt was caused by more than the weather. What was life really like in the Free Democratic People's Republic of Oakland? Talk had filtered through to the West that they were making great strides over there, catching up fast. I had to find out.

I negotiated The Hump safely — the artificial barrier over which so many had made their escape. The guard at the border was uniformed and grim. I handed over my quarter and whispered "How much to get out again?" He looked at me strangely and didn't answer, but it wouldn't be fair to say he was downright unfriendly. The important thing is to keep in contact with these people.

The first thing I noticed is that there aren't as many lights in Oakland as there are in San Francisco; however, it must be remembered that San Francisco is the West's showcase. There were few shoppers on the street, perhaps because the stores were closed. The people were drably dressed in undistinguished raincoats. Perhaps because it was raining. Who knows? My job was only to observe. I leave the evaluation to those better qualified.

I drove up San Pablo Ave. to a place called Trader Vic's. As is typical in so-called People's Republics, Oaklanders claim to have invented it; the more nationalistic among them insist the West's Trader Vic's is a copy. A man named Joe, guarding the door, asked suspiciously "May I see your visa?" The food and drinks were good, even by Western standards. The natives at the bar were friendly, but aloof. They stared at my shoes. They can always tell a foreigner by his shoes.

I called a cab, a reasonable copy of the West's Yellow type, and asked for the Oakland Auditorium Theater. I was on edge, for the moment of truth was approaching: was the Oakland Symphony Orchestra really catching up with our own? Were their people as cultured as ours? Would pianist Glenn Gould really play Beethoven's Fourth? These were the thoughts that hounded me as we drove along the rainslick streets.

"Is it far?" I asked the driver. "I'm a stranger here." He looked at me with some interest. "Are you from — over there?" he asked. I nodded guardedly, wondering what his reaction would be. "How're things over there?" he went on. "Fine," I said, "How are things — over here?" He squinted through the windshield. "Can't complain," he shrugged. I understood. There was a two-way radio in the car and he couldn't afford to talk too much in a city with only one daily newspaper and that one tightly controlled.

At the Auditorium Theater, my worst fears were realized. Every seat was taken and there were standees. Some of the women were wearing furs. The Theater itself is old-fashioned, not at all like our Jack Tar, but it has a certain charm; a remnant of the glorious past. Outside there were lawns and trees — a People's Democratic Park — but nothing to compare with our Civic Center fountain.

The orchestra, under a bushy-haired young man named Gerhard Samuel, sounded polished and professional in Händel and Stravinsky. The Russian again. A stout woman in a cloth coat, seated next to me, said "I don't know what I'm doing here, I've been sick all day." I studied her sympathetically, but she seemed too big to smuggle to the West. Glenn Gould played the Beethoven and the people cheered and cheered standing up in tribute. Again, the orchestra had performed nobly.

In the lobby, I literally rubbed elbows with the people. I evaluated them carefully. They seemed to be divided into two groups, male and female. They smoked cigarettes and talked animatedly about the music. Obviously they didn't dare discuss politics. In the crowd I recognized several Professors who had crossed the Northern border from the notorious Berkeley hotbed. I scribbled their names on a scrap of paper and swallowed it. No telling when it would come in handy.

Gloomily, I took a cab back to my car and headed for the border. I dreaded the morning, when I would have to report to my superiors that Oakland indeed has a first-rate orchestra and crowds every bit as appreciative as ours.

At the border, I handed over another quarter to the guard. No doubt of it, they were making it tough for us to go back and forth. Gritting my teeth, I recrossed The Hump, the sound of that full, lush Oakland string section still ringing in my ears.

Soon the lights of the West were shining through the mist. I was safely home again, but I knew I was not the same man who had set out, almost lightheartedly, so many hours before. While it is too soon to say that we are falling behind — their French horns had, after all, made several mistakes — the time for complacency is past.

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BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

GERMAN REPORT's special prize for the oddest news story of 1962 goes to "Topic", a new British newsmagazine. On February 10th "Topic" stated: "Large numbers of East Berliners are no longer able to buy shoes, clothing, textiles, nylons and food in the West. These items are unobtainable, or much too expensive, in East Germany.

So now at last we know the truth. The East Germans get along without shoes, clothes, or food, which are unobtainable (or much too expensive, which comes to the same thing). This is, of course, all part of an insidious Red Conspiracy.

But perhaps all East Berliners have already died off as a result of eating unobtainable food. This might be the clue to understanding the wild story contributed on February 11th to the "Sunday Telegraph" by Sebastian Haffner from West Berlin. He stated:

"A couple of weeks ago, East Berlin began to stink. The sewerage had ceased to function. The reason? Corpses — too many of them..."

There may be some sort of excuse for writing horror stories like this about far-off places where nobody can go to check; but Mr Haffner lives in West Berlin, and he could take a car or train ride at any time across the state frontier to have a look or take a deep breath. But of course if he did that, he would find that it does not stink, that there is nothing wrong with the sewerage, and that there are no corpses — in fact that there was no story. And that would never do.

In view of the "hunger in East Germany" stories, one of which I have quoted above, it may be useful to give you a couple of figures. In 1961, meat consumption per head in the GDR was over 125 lbs: in Britain it was 104 lbs. Butter consumption was over 29 lbs per head in the GDR: in Britain it was 20 lbs. So if the people of the GDR are hungry, then Britain is obviously starving.

Long Way Round

I can't resist a marginal comment on the Case of the Nazi Diplomats, dealt with at length on page 58 of this issue. On January 19th we published a map showing the world-wide network of nazi diplomats working for West Germany today. On February 2nd this was picked up in London by the "Jewish Observer", correctly quoting GERMAN REPORT as the source. On February 16th, "Tribune", London, reprinted the map, quoting "Jewish Observer" as the source. And on February 21st, "Neues Deutschland" in East Berlin picked it up, quoting "Tribune" as source. Since the editorial office of "Neues Deutschland" lies a good 200 yards away from the little office of GERMAN REPORT, the map established some sort of snail-speed record to cover this distance in 33 days. But it is a tribute to the excellent clear work of our cartographer that the map was still as clear and legible after going through the process rooms and presses of four newspapers as it was when he first drew it.

Those Ruins (I)

The old old story of the unreconstructed ruins of East Berlin seems to be due for a re-play. You all know the yarn — West Berlin is all bustling, bright and re-built, and East Berlin is all empty, grey, desolate and full of ruins.

On June 9th last year, GERMAN REPORT decided to turn the tables, and published a double-page spread of pictures, showing bright, bustling, neon-lit East Berlin scenes, and desolate, empty West Berlin streets. In our comment we made it clear that our pictures were not the whole truth, any more than the western reports were. Our comment stated in part: "Anybody with a camera can find ruins and gloomy corners in Berln, both East and West; or he can find bustling streets and bright lights in both parts of the divided city. The camera cannot lie, but the editor can."

We were interested to note, rather belatedly, that one West German editor even went so far as to use our debunking spread of pictures as a propaganda weapon. "Aktuell", a Life-style West German weekly, reproduced our double page on September 2nd 1961 with a caption stating that this was a typical case of the lying propaganda put out by East German newspapers. The West German magazine relied on the fact that its readers could not understand the English text accompanying the pictures. Just incidentally, the publisher of "Aktuell" is a certain Dr Hans Kapfinger, recently sentenced on morals charges. In court proceedings on February 19th in Munich the court ruled that the could not be regarded as a man of integrity, and that little credence could be attached to statements which he made. Kapfinger is at present involved in the complicated case in which West German Defence Minister Franz Josef Strauss is charged with the readiness to accept a bribe of about one million pounds sterling.

Those Ruins (II)

There is a second story about Berlin ruins this week. Hollywood director Billy Wilder has just made a silly and sometimes vicious film called "One-Two-Three" about divided Berlin. For the "anti-eastern" passages he needed, of course, some shots of those oft-cited "grim unreconstructed deserts" which are alleged to be East Berlin. Since he could not shoot them in East Berlin, he simply took his pictures in some of the many acres of ruins which still mar West Berlin. Anyone who knows Berlin well will recognise the West Berlin Potsdamer Strasse and other places if he is unfortunate enough to see this film.

Unpolitical Sport

In Berlin Notebook on February 16th we gave you the background to the difficulties arising in international sport as the result of the West German refusal to recognise that the German Democratic Republic exists. Summarised shortly, the situation is that West Germany has prevailed upon all NATO countries to ban GDR sports teams from visiting these countries: as a result very many international championships in different branches of sport are endangered.

The NATO countries are now finding that they are sawing off the branch on which they sit: international sports meets are being transferred to socialist countries or neutral countries, where all teams can compete without visa bans. Latest case I have noted is that of the world Weight-lifting Championships, originally scheduled to be held in Hershey, Pennsylvania. The championships have now been switched to Budapest, because the US authorities would not allow the GDR team into the United States. The International Wrestling Championships, also scheduled for the United States, are likely to be transferred for the same reason. And the countries responsible are those which are always yakking loudest about "keeping politics out of sport".

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